

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A liquid crystal display device comprising:
 - 2 a first substrate;
 - 3 a second substrate facing the first substrate,
 - 4 a liquid crystal layer interposed between the first and second substrates;
 - 5 at least one pixel area being defined by a plurality of gate lines and a plurality
 - 6 of drain lines arranged in a matrix over the first substrate, wherein the plurality of gate lines
 - 7 are extending in a first direction, and the plurality of drain lines are extending in a second
 - 8 direction;
 - 9 a first electrode assigned to the pixel area, the first electrode provided over the
 - 10 first substrate;
 - 11 a second electrode assigned to the pixel area and facing the first electrode, the
 - 12 second electrode provided over the first substrate and being transparent, the second electrode
 - 13 having a solid portion and a hollow portion, the hollow portion being superposed to at least a
 - 14 portion of the first electrode; and
 - 15 an insulating layer provided between the first and second electrodes.
- 1 2. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the
- 2 hollow portion of the second electrode has a width extending in the first direction and a
- 3 length extending in the second direction, the length being substantially greater than the width.
- 1 3. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1 wherein the first
- 2 electrode having a comb shape structure including a plurality of branch portions extending in
- 3 the second direction and a connecting portion connected to the branch portions and extending
- 4 in the first direction, wherein one or more of the plurality of branch portions being
- 5 superposed to the solid portion of the second electrode, and one or more of the plurality of
- 6 branch portions being superposed to the hollow portion of the second electrode.
- 1 4. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 3, wherein the
- 2 second electrode has a plurality of hollow portions, the display device further including:
 - 3 an outline of the second direction of at least one hollow portion being disposed
 - 4 between said plurality of branch portions.
- 1 5. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 4 further
- 2 including:

3 a width of each branch portion in the first direction being smaller than a width
4 of the hollow portion in the first direction.

1 6. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 4 wherein the first
2 electrode is a pixel electrode, and the second electrode is a counter electrode.

1 7. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 6 further
2 including:

3 a switching element being assigned to the pixel area, wherein one of the
4 plurality of gate lines is applying a scan signal to the switching element, one of the plurality
5 of drain lines is applying a video signal to the pixel electrode via the switching element.

1 8. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 7 wherein the
2 liquid crystal layer is one selected from the following group: a material having a positive
3 dielectric anisotropy $\Delta\epsilon$ and a material having a negative dielectric anisotropy $\Delta\epsilon$.

1 9. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 8, wherein an
2 alignment of molecules of the liquid crystal layer is homogeneous.

1 10. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 8 wherein one of
2 the plurality of branch portions has a zigzag pattern structure.

1 11. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 6, wherein the
2 counter electrode is provided over the pixel electrode.

1 12. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 11 wherein the
2 counter electrode is one selected from the following group: ITO, IZO and IGO.

1 13. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 12 further
2 including:

3 a plurality of counter voltage lines disposed between two gate lines and
4 applying a voltage to the counter electrode. 11.

1 14. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 6, wherein the
2 pixel electrode is provided over the counter electrode.

1 15. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 14 wherein the
2 counter electrode is one selected from the following group: ITO, IZO and IGO.

1 16. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 15 further
2 including:

3 a plurality of counter voltage lines disposed between two gate lines and
4 applying a voltage to the counter electrode.

1 17. A liquid crystal display device comprising:
2 a first substrate
3 a second substrate facing the first substrate;
4 a liquid crystal layer interposed between the first and second substrates;
5 a counter electrode having a hole and formed over the first substrate;
6 a pixel electrode formed over the first substrate, the pixel electrode having a
7 plurality of branch portions and a connection portion connecting the branch portions, each
8 branch portion being separated from an adjacent branch portion by a first distance; and
9 an insulating layer interposed between the counter electrode and the pixel
10 electrode,

11 wherein one of the branch portions of the pixel electrode is overlapping the
12 counter electrode and another of the branch portions of the pixel electrode is overlapping to
13 the hole of the counter electrode, the hole having a first width in a first direction and the
14 branch portion overlapping to the hole having a second width in the first direction,

15 wherein a second distance defines an amount of distance by which an edge of
16 hole extends beyond an edge of the branch portion overlapping to the hole, and
17 wherein the first distance is greater than the second distance.

1 18. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 17 wherein the
2 second distance is greater than the second width of the branch portion.

1 19. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 17 wherein the
2 first width of the hole is greater than the second width of the branch portion vertically aligned
3 to the hole,

1 20. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 17 wherein at least
2 two branch portions of the pixel electrode are overlapping the counter electrode.

1 21. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 17 wherein the
2 hole of the counter electrode forms a slit shape.